

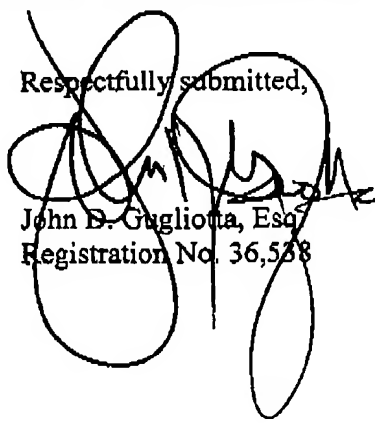
**REMARKS / ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Before entry of the present amendment, Claim 3 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was considered allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base and intervening claims. Claim 3 has been so amended, and claims 5-8 and new claim 9 are now dependent on amended Claim 3, and should therefore also be in condition for allowance. Claims 1-2 and 4 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Therefore, in view of foregoing amendments and clarifications, the applicant submits that allowance of the present application and all remaining claims, as amended, is in order and a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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